

Harris County

EARLY CHILDHOOD IMPACT FUND

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS | EVALUATION

mission + goals

Harris County is requesting proposals from one or more experienced **third-party evaluators** to rigorously evaluate the short- and long-term impacts of early childhood initiatives funded through the Harris County Early Childhood Impact Fund. Applicants will be expected to use experimental, quasi-experimental, or other rigorous methods for measuring causal attribution.

expectations

Evidence gathered from rigorous evaluation ensures that positive findings from implementation translate into policy change and long-term support for promising programs.

- Evaluations must be independent and carefully structured to determine overall impacts, as well as which program components are beneficial
- Since more than one program or intervention may be funded, the evaluation of each needs to be situationally responsive
- Vendors must be willing to work with Harris County and service providers to structure the funded initiatives in a way that facilitates rigorous evaluation

Proposal Deadline:

February 1, 2021

Visit bids.hctx.net/bsc and click Open Bids to find detailed RFP information.

objectives

Over the two-to-three year funding period, selected vendors will be responsible for carrying out rigorous applied research and evaluation that help meet the following objectives:



Design and conduct a rigorous process and impact evaluation of the funded early childhood initiatives



Work with Harris County and service providers to refine project measures, identify data sources, and support data collection



Generate more robust and reliable data on the causal impacts of funded early childhood programs and interventions



Establish an evidentiary foundation for more cost-effective and impactful policymaking



Elevate new and improved initiatives that improve early childhood outcomes in Harris County



proposal requirements

Key requirements of the RFP include the following:

- Discuss how applicant would design evaluations for different early childhood services
- Discuss capabilities and relevant past experience in:
 - » Program evaluation
 - » Quantitative research methods and analysis
 - » Disseminating findings
- Identify proposed evaluation aims
- Propose one or more scientific approaches to causal attribution
- Provide budget and personnel justification
- Identify human subjects considerations
- Provide two project examples

evaluation criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by an evaluation committee based on the following criteria:

- Firm experience and qualifications
- Approach to independent impact evaluation
- Firm capacity and resources
- References
- Pricing

Successful applicants should have experience and technical expertise in **program evaluation, quantitative research methods and analysis, and disseminating findings** related to early childhood health, development, or education.

how to apply

For full proposal information visit bids.hctx.net/bsa and click Open Bids. We strongly encourage all interested parties to register and download the proposal at Harris County BuySpeed Online to receive any addenda to the RFP.

Return proposal to Harris County Purchasing by **2pm (CT) on February 1, 2021.**

timeline

October 30, 2020.....RFPs released
November 19, 2020.....Info Session
January 8, 2021.....Deadline for Questions
February 1, 2021.....Deadline for Proposals
March 2021.....Awards announced

questions?

Information Session

An RFP info session will be held on November 19, 2020 at 10:00 am. [Register here](#) in advance.

Submit Questions

Submit additional questions to Sandra Melancon at Sandra.Melancon@pur.hctx.net by January 8, 2021. All questions submitted in writing prior to the deadline will be compiled, answered, and shared with all potential RFP respondents.

